

Cycling Baseball Squash Golf Billiards Automobiling Polo Basketball Other Sports

SPRINTS AND FALLS THRILL GARDEN CROWD

Day of Fearful Riding in Six-Day Race Keeps Spectators in an Uproar.

WALTHOUR BADLY SHAKEN

Judges All at Sea and Ring Bell Too Often, Misleading the Riders, Who Leave the Track.

A situation which, to say the least, was peculiar, marked the riding at the six-day race at Madison Square Garden last night. Eddie Fye, the Australian rider, almost fell the field unassisted, and his relief man, Grenda, practically completed the task when Peter Drobach took a most scientific fall and the most spectacular ride of the race went for nothing. Fye's effort was a piece of the cyclist riding seen in many a day. He rode along at the base of the track at a leisurely pace, and when the field swung high on the bank Eddie quickened his pace. At the fourth avenue turn, out of sight of the field, Fye rode like mad and was half a lap ahead when the pack woke up and set out in pursuit. Grenda relieved Fye, and the other teams at once hustled out relief men. On Grenda drove, passing man after man, but when only Rutt, Clarke and one or two remained in front of him Drobach "fell" to the track and the sprint was off. The judges ruled that since Rutt was leading when Fye made his jump he was stalling, and fined him \$35.

When the field took up the race Loftus went out again, and then Rutt, Clarke and Berthel hit it up in order. These sports ended when "Grassy" Ryan fell. Immediately Fye went out again and had half a lap on the field when P. Suter, Moran and Root fell in rapid succession. No bell was rung, and for three laps the riders continued their mad dash. Finally the judges decided that they would ring the bell and they did. With the field strung out like the tail of a kite they rang the bell some more. Fogler and a few others who were far in the lead sprinted like mad, but Jimmy Moran called the others off the track and refused to ride until the whole field was bunched.

The crowd hissed and booed the judges. A little later these same judges decided that Fye and Grenda were not entitled to a lap since their pick-up was not according to Hoyle and anyway Grenda's half was all muffed up. At 11 o'clock the men were three miles and seven laps ahead of the record.

Shortly before 10 o'clock Oscar Egg, as he neared the 27th street entrance, on the Fourth avenue side of the Garden, which is known as the unlucky curve, started a sprint. As he came down to the level of the track he crashed into "Bobby" Walther, throwing him from his wheel against one of the pillars of the inside arena. The bell sounded and the race was stopped. Dr. James Thompson, the track physician, after examining Walther, found that he had been injured in the groin and ordered him removed from the track. Walther was unconscious. Egg limped to his camp and after a short rest mounted his wheel just as Cameron, Walther's partner, rode out to take "Bobby's" place. The race was delayed but a short time.

At 8 o'clock yesterday morning the twelve teams still tied for first place in the grind had covered 1,332 miles and 4 laps, while the plucky little Swiss riders, Frank and Paul Suter, were two laps in the lead, but for last place with Cameron and Loftus. The terrific pace at which the men have travelled has had its effect, and they look tired. Frequent falls have cut and bruised the men until several look more like prizefighters after a grueling battle than just bicycle racers. Berthel, in particular, is all cut up about the face, and his legs are covered with black and blue marks which tell of bumps on the track.

Alfred Grenda, the big Australian, called down the wrath of the gallery yesterday on his head at 5 o'clock in the morning for the latter gentry believed to be inexcusably foul riding. The bunch was sprung on the wings of the wind in a wild sprint started by Jackie Clarke and Joe Fogler. The pack hung on, but soon the leaders stopped riding hard. All were tired, and showed it. Grenda then went out on a little dash of his own. For three laps he carried the field at a furious clip until Cameron and "Grassy" Ryan tried to pocket him while the men were rounding "dead man's curve" on Madison avenue. Grenda couldn't see the pocketing process a little bit, and Cameron went down with a crash, and Berthel, Fogler, Clarke and Thomas fell with him.

At once the angry mob rose, hooting the Australian. Papers were hurled at him, but were painfully ineffective, so the crowd took bottles. A few missiles hurtled within dangerous range, and, crashing on the track, covered it with glass. There was a delay of about fifteen minutes while the track was cleared, and when the specials prevailed upon the mob to refrain they compromised by hooting and hissing.

Shortly after 2 o'clock in the morning Cameron and Loftus were passed by the field for the second time. The sprint was started by Berthel, who, leaping out from the rear of the pack, shot twenty yards to the front. Clarke went after him, and pulling the rest of the field with him, slowly cut the advantage down. Cameron was unable to keep up, and, quick to follow the advantage, Rutt, Root and John Bedell continued the furious riding. Slowly, inch by inch, but none the less surely, Cameron and later Loftus, fell back, until all the field, including Paul Suter, passed him. The sprint ended only when Grenda hit Berthel and both fell to the floor. Bobby Walther was so exhausted by the killing pace that he wobbled and fell off his wheel, carrying

Score of 98th Hour in Six Day Cycle Race

Miles.	Laps.
Kramer and Moran..... 1,918	2
Clarke and Hill..... 1,918	2
Grenda and Fye..... 1,918	2
Fogler and Rutt..... 1,918	2
Root and Hehr..... 1,918	2
Ryan and Thomas..... 1,918	2
Egg and Berthel..... 1,918	2
Beece and Mitten..... 1,918	2
Bedell and Mitten..... 1,918	2
Walther and Cameron..... 1,918	2
Drobach and Collins..... 1,918	2
Walker and Wells..... 1,918	2
Carmen and Loftus..... 1,918	2
Suter and Suter..... 1,918	2

The record for the ninety-eighth hour was 1,907 miles and 4 laps, made by Saldow and Lorenz in 1911.

Mitten and Wells with him. Walther received several cuts, which were dressed by a physician, and his partner, Cameron, took up the chase.

At 9 o'clock in the morning the men dropped off the track, and for an hour rode around on the flat floor. They were tired out, they said, and the threats and pleadings of the clerk of the course, referees and other officials fell upon deaf ears. During the hour the men rode nine miles and nine laps, and when they returned to the track at 10 o'clock they were one lap behind the old record of 1,610 miles and eight laps, established by Fye and Hehr in 1908. The bank of the track, they declared, demanded a speed of seventeen miles to the hour, and this was too much to be maintained for 148 hours. At 11 o'clock the men were one lap ahead of the old mark, but then ceased in their pace, and between 11 o'clock in the morning and 3 o'clock in the afternoon they were from one lap to two miles behind. Later they picked up, and at 6 o'clock were two miles and eight laps in front of the record.

ARMY ABOLISHES FENCING

Team Withdraws from Intercollegiate League.

Fencing as an intercollegiate sport at West Point has been abolished, and the Army team has withdrawn from the Intercollegiate Fencing Association, according to a letter which the league officers received yesterday from the manager of the military academy team. This action was taken under orders of the superintendent of the academy, and the Army team has been disbanded and all the dual meets that had been scheduled with college teams for the coming season have been cancelled.

No reason was given by the West Point manager further than that already stated, although the cadets must have known that such radical action, coming as it does after all arrangements have been agreed upon for the holding of the intercollegiate championship tournament, would throw the entire college fencing world into confusion. The action was a surprise to the league, and will necessitate a complete rearrangement of the plans for the tournaments. By the original plan Columbia, Cornell and the Army were to meet at West Point while Harvard, Yale and Bowdoin and Princeton, Pennsylvania and the Navy had matches at Boston and Annapolis, respectively. This will now have to be altered.

Whether the Navy will follow the soldiers out of the league is a matter of conjecture. The sudden action of the cadets brings up afresh the antagonism that the colleges have had for the service teams and the efforts have been made to have the Army and Navy give up their membership in the association. With the dropping out of West Point also comes the rumor that Yale, too, is planning to give up membership in the fencing association, as it has already done in basketball and hockey. Such action would leave only Columbia, Cornell, Bowdoin, Pennsylvania, Princeton, Harvard and Annapolis in the league.

TO ROW AGAINST HARVARD

Cornell to Meet Crimson Oarsmen in Dual Race.

Ithaca, N. Y., Dec. 12.—Cornell will row against Harvard on Cayuga Lake on May 24 in "varsity" and freshman eight-oared races. Cornell will not play Pennsylvania State again at football.

These two announcements were made by the athletic council to-day. The regatta at Cornell falls on Spring Day, when many other attractions will be offered. The management gives no reason for dropping Pennsylvania State, and merely states that the school will not be asked for a game when the schedule is prepared this winter.

COLUMBIAN BOWLERS WIN.

Two series in the Athletic Bowling League were rolled last night, the Columbia team, of East Orange, winning the odd on the alleys of the Columbia club, in Hoboken, while at the Montclair club the home five took two from the Elizabeth club quintet.

The best total of the night was 960, made by Columbia in its second game at Hoboken. In the other series, after each side had a game to its credit, both Nolte and Claus, usually regarded as two of the most reliable bowlers on the Elizabeth team, ran into splits and misses, so that Montclair was enabled to win with a small total.

The scores were as follows:

COLUMBIA CLUB	COLUMBIAN CLUB
Schultz..... 187 177 186	O. Hase..... 187 200 208
Applegate..... 157 148 145	Blatchley..... 158 220 160
Rodden..... 156 169 190	Smith..... 167 169 149
Pope..... 184 203 218	Day..... 176 178 191
Hartzel..... 152 166 168	Lum..... 189 187 224
Totals..... 647 688 907	Totals..... 843 960 932

MONTCLAIR CLUB ELIZABETH CLUB

Engle..... 192 177 154	R. West..... 150 179 184
Houser..... 184 190 168	Colby..... 151 177 182
Smith..... 158 176 158	Kling..... 178 146 140
Powell..... 186 187 154	Claus..... 156 176 181
Lockwood..... 178 156 174	West..... 162 186 179
Totals..... 821 806 805	Totals..... 856 893 747

NEW YORK DOG THIRD.

Leitchville, Ala., Dec. 12.—Money, owned by J. M. Arent, of Hickory Valley, Tenn., won first prize in the all-age event at the Southern Field dog trials to-day. Melrose Mohawk, owned by J. W. Conditine, of Seattle, was second, and George Clay, owned by Robert Craig, of New York, took third prize.

Stoddard Wins Way to Final Round in Squash Tourney

Defeats Pope After Three Lively Sets by Steady Aggressive Playing.

Sanford Stoddard, of the Bridgeport University Club, won his place in the final round yesterday of the national handicap tournament under the direction of the National Squash Tennis Association on the courts of the Heights Casino, Montague street, Brooklyn. The Connecticut player from scratch defeated W. E. G. Pope, of the Crescent Athletic Club, handicapped at plus 5 ace and 1 hand, after three lively sets by the score of 8-15, 15-11, 15-8. Stoddard by his victory coupled with Josiah O. Low, of the Casino, for the honors which were won last season by George Whitney, of the Harvard Club. Both play at scratch, and will meet in the best three out of five sets to-morrow afternoon at 8 o'clock.

Because of his possessing greater familiarity with the court, Pope made headway rapidly in the first set. Meanwhile, Stoddard was finding his angles and speeding up on his criss-cross shots that doubled the corners on the front wall. Under his powerfully played strokes the ball came back with plenty of sting off the hard front wall of slate. Stoddard vainly attempted to overtake Pope toward the close of the first game, but the Connecticut man had obtained too long a lead, tallying the set for his own at 15-8.

Stoddard forced Pope upon the defensive from the beginning of the second set. By the clever management of his cleavages, nickers and cut strokes Stoddard held Pope at his handicap mark to score five aces for himself and balance the tally at 5-11. Then the Crescent player made the most of his "hand in" and continued on even terms with Stoddard to 11-11. Once more the Connecticut man worked his criss-crosses prettily. Pope fought so well that Stoddard could not make a run, but, counting the aces singly, he finished out the set in his favor at 15-11 by all-around good playing.

In the deciding set Stoddard soon went to the front at 6-0, only on the next balance the tally at 6-11 on the end. From that point on to the end, however, Stoddard was master of the court. He kept Pope hitting low balls into the net, easily finishing at 15-6, the winner of the match.

The summary follows:

National squash handicap (semi-final round)—Sanford Stoddard, scratch, defeated W. E. G. Pope, plus 5 ace and 1 hand, 8-15, 15-11, 15-8.

Arrangements have been made to decide the national squash tennis championship tournament on the courts of the Princeton Club, Gramercy Park, beginning Wednesday, February 1, and continuing through, with the final match for the title on Saturday, February 4.

TO SHOW ELECTRIC CARS CHANCE SURE TO COME

Six Bids for Space at Salon at the Hotel Astor.

There is a prospect of a half dozen of the leading makes of electric automobiles and at least two high priced American gasoline cars being exhibited at the forthcoming salon at the Hotel Astor, which heretofore has been devoted exclusively to foreign built motor cars. Applications for space are under consideration by the show committee of the Automobile Importers' Alliance, and will probably be acted upon this week.

Heretofore there have been from six to ten exhibits of electric pleasure cars each year, but only two have taken space for the big double show which opens in the Garden and Palace on January 11, the day the salon closes.

The applications for space to exhibit American gasoline cars at the salon are said to be prompted by dissatisfaction with the space allotted at the other shows. One of these applicants bases its claim on the fact that while its car is built in this country, it is largely designed abroad and is in reality a foreign car.

George J. Gilbert and D. J. Fulton, formerly the buyers for the Jandorf Automobile Company, have formed a corporation, with offices at No. 23 West 68th street. Their main object is to take care of the wholesale trade.

DISCUSSION ON HIGHWAYS

Motorists Want State Commission to Be Non-Partisan.

Utica, Dec. 12.—The New York State Automobile Association closed a two-day session in this city to-night with a dinner at which State Engineer Benzel gave an address. During the business sessions to-day the organization went on record in favor of a non-partisan state highway commission and heard C. Gordon Reel, State Superintendent of Highways, on the spending of the \$50,000,000 bond issue. Troy was chosen as the place for the 1913 convention, and it was determined that the annual meetings will be held in November instead of December.

The state association practically reinstated the Syracuse Automobile Club and the threatened split between the state and the national or A. A. A. organizations failed to occur for Laurens Enos, president of the national body, put the seal of his approval on the state organization at the close of the afternoon session in an address.

The following officers were elected: President, A. J. Deer, Hornell; first vice-president, H. G. Strong, Rochester; second vice-president, Howard Martin, Albany; third vice-president, A. B. Maynard, Utica; treasurer, A. C. Parsons, Troy; secretary, F. D. Lyon, Albany.

HOCKEY TROPHY THE PRIZE

Intercollegiate League Teams to Begin Play Soon.

The hockey sevens of Cutler School, Collegiate School, Irving School, and Stevens Preparatory School, of Hoboken, will fight it out for the championship of the Intercollegiate Hockey League, according to a schedule announced yesterday, after a meeting of the representatives of the teams held at Cutler School.

The organization has received a \$100 trophy by George Hilleck, which will become the property of the school winning it three times. The schoolboys will engage in a round robin series of twelve games, each team playing the other twice.

All the teams have been practicing on the ice at the St. Nicholas Rink, where the games will be played, and are quickly rounding into form. The champion Cutler School seven again will be represented by the same players as last year, and the outlook is bright for repeating the victory.

The schedule as announced follows:

January 8, Cutler vs. Irving; 11, Cutler vs. Collegiate; 21, Stevens vs. Irving; February 1, Cutler vs. Collegiate; 4, Cutler vs. Stevens; 8, Irving vs. Collegiate; 11, Cutler vs. Stevens; 15, Stevens vs. Irving; 22, Collegiate vs. Irving; March 1, Collegiate vs. Stevens; 4, Cutler vs. Irving.

TO RUN POSTPONED RACE.

The three-mile novice race which was postponed from the games of the Bradhurst Field Club last Saturday evening, December 7, will be run from the clubhouse of this organization, No. 265 West 126th street, on Sunday, December 15. The race will be run over the club's three-mile course.

AL PALZER BEGINS TRAINING.

Los Angeles, Dec. 12.—Al Palzer began training to-day for his New Year's battle with Luther McCarty. McCarty received a request from Tommy Burns to go to Vancouver and there box the former heavyweight champion three rounds on December 21. McCarty refused, saying he intended to renew training on that date for the Palzer fight.

Brown May Be Umpire

National League Wants Three-Fingered Pitcher to Hold the Indicator.

It is hard enough to get base hits off the pitching of Walter Johnson and Joe Wood, but it is harder to make home runs off their delivery. This fact was driven home through an inspection of 1912 American League four-baggers of 1912, each being charged with only two errors. Harry Lord, of the Chicago White Sox, made one home run while facing each, while Ping Bodie made the other four-bagger off Johnson, and Frank Baker the other off Wood.

It may be mentioned that the two four-ply smashes off Johnson came in the same game on May 8, a game, by the way, in which Johnson was knocked out of the box.

Other star pitchers of the American League did not possess the skill or luck that Johnson and Wood showed in preventing the manufacture of home runs. Russell Ford, for example, yielded ten hits for the full distance, two of which were procured by Tris Speaker, winner of the Chalmers car voted to him as the American League's most valuable player. Ed Walsh, of Chicago, was found for six homers, Speaker getting one and winning a game with it. Five home runs were made off the delivery of Jack Coombs, three off Bob Groom and four off Veau Gregg. "Chief" Bender, of the Athletics, allowed only one, but he pitched in comparatively few games.

The full record follows:

New York—Off Ford, 19; Warhop, 4; Quinn, 4; Fisher, 3; Davis, 2; McConnell, 2; Vaughn, 1; and Caldwell, 1. Total, 55.

Chicago—Off Walsh, 6; Benz, 5; Lange, 4; Cletts, 3; Mordridge, 2; White, 2; Jordan, 1; Bell, 1; and Peters, 1. Total, 32.

Washington—Off Hughes, 8; Grimes, 2; Castroland, 2; Johnson, 2; Akers, 1; Griffith, 1; Engel, 1; and White, 1. Total, 22.

Boston—Off Redding, 6; Collins, 4; Hall, 4; O'Brien, 2; and Wood, 2. Total, 19.

St. Louis—Off Powell, 5; Allison, 4; Mitchell, 2; Hamilton, 2; E. Brown, 2; Felt, 1; and Cummings, 1. Total, 17.

Pittsburgh—Off Lake, 3; Willitt, 3; Mullin, 3; Works, 2; Dubuc, 2; Jensen, 1; Wheatley, 1; and Moran, 1. Total, 16.

Cleveland—Off Gregg, 4; Blanding, 3; Steen, 3; Baskette, 2; George, 1; Mitchell, 1; and Kahler, 1. Total, 15.

Philadelphia—Off Coombs, 5; Brown, 2; Pennock, 1; Russell, 1; Plank, 1; Bender, 1; and Houck, 1. Total, 12.

The status of Mordred Brown, former pitcher for the Chicago Cubs, has been settled by William Neal, of the Louisville club of the American Association, which wanted him as a pitcher for next season, but declared that the club would not stand in the way if Brown desired to better himself by accepting a position as umpire in one of the big leagues. According to Neal, Brown has been offered a position on the umpiring staff of the National League.

Ira B. Hogue, who pitched for the Anderson baseball club of the Carolina Association last season, has been signed by the Boston Braves. Hogue, who is a right-handed pitcher, was at one time a member of the Yankees.

Ad Wolgast, the recently defeated lightweight champion, and his manager, Tom Jones, lost nearly \$500 on the Flynn-McCarthy fight, and the former champion has informed his friends that he will never beat another penny on a fight.

Wolgast's training quarters before the day of the fight to see McCarthy's work, and on each occasion the young Missourian seemed to box very carelessly. Wolgast gave out a statement before the fight that McCarthy did not even know how to hold his hands and predicted an easy victory for Flynn.

COLUMBIA'S HOCKEY PLANS

To Stick to Own Eligibility Rules and Arrange Schedule.

Pending whatever action may be taken by the Intercollegiate Hockey League on Columbia's decision to stick to its own eligibility rules, the Columbia hockey management is going ahead with plans for the season and is making arrangements to continue the sport, even if the Blue and White finds itself outside of the league at the special meeting that is to be held next week.

Games probably will be arranged with Yale, Cornell and Syracuse, and also probable that contests with Princeton and Dartmouth will be scheduled, as the representatives of both institutions have indicated that they will play with Columbia, whether it is in the league or out of it.

Tom Howard, the coach, has lost no time by the delay, and yesterday announced a cut in the squad, so that when the team resumes practice it will be only the most promising material.

Those who have survived the cut are F. R. Delmore, A. R. Shiland, R. W. Millham, W. H. Todd, A. C. Smith, B. H. Brown, G. P. Butler, V. Moore, R. J. Trimble, W. S. Johnston, D. G. Campbell, S. Miller, D. L. Greenleaf, M. Dwight, H. A. Van Wedell, F. N. Banks, N. C. Stevens, C. E. Melsner and J. S. Bates.

In T. T. Cook, a freshman, and T. E. Edebonia, H. G. Mefferts, coach of the Columbia swimming team, believes he has discovered two aquatic stars. They reported recently for the first time this season, but Mefferts thinks that already they are as good as some of the veterans of last year's squad.

Mefferts has developed one of the fastest relay teams that Columbia has ever had. In a trial race with three other teams yesterday afternoon the first team, composed of F. Culman, H. S. Osgood, P. H. Barrett and P. M. Cooper, had little difficulty in winning in faster time than the "varsity" relay team made last year in any of its races.

THREE-CUSHION BILLIARDS.

Four games were decided in the Class A three-cushion carrom billiard tournament in progress at Daly's Academy yesterday, as follows: Kahn, 40; Thomas, 3; Thomas, 49; Manner, 38; Edgington, 40; Houston, 34; Cope, 49; Pierson, 35.

Royal Auction Clinics

By GEORGE KLING

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TIMELY BITS OF SPORT

Hard to Make Home Runs with Wood or Johnson in Box.

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Columbia will hold its annual intercollegiate indoor relay championship meet in the Tilt Regiment Armory on Saturday, February 15. This is the announcement that was made yesterday by Harry A. Fisher, graduate manager of athletics at Columbia. It has not been decided yet whether an intercollegiate meet will be held the same afternoon. Hitherto the meet has been held in Madison Square Garden and the 23d Regiment Armory, but the Columbia authorities, finding that the former was too large and the latter too small, decided to have this year's meet at the Tilt stronghold.

Hugh H. Baxter, of the New York Athletic Club, has given a trophy cup to take the place of the Baxter cup that was won for the third successive year by A. R. Kiviat last season for the Irish-American Athletic Club. The conditions governing the new cup will be the same as those under which the old Martindale cup and the Baxter cup races were held. The race will be a one-mile run, and efforts will be made to have Norman Taber, of Brown; Axel Kiviat and the best miler of the day in the race. It is doubtful if John Paul Jones will run in this contest, for he will probably represent Cornell in the two-mile relay championship race.

J. V. Hoole, track captain of the Union Settlement Athletic Club for the last eight years, has been nominated for a vacancy on the registration committee of the Amateur Athletic Union. He asks the support of all the clubs in the metropolitan district.

The bout between Eddie Morgan and Johnny Dundee scheduled for last night at the Forty-fourth Street Sporting Club was postponed, and will be held next Thursday. The two featherweights mutually agreed upon the postponement, believing that they should have more time to prepare for such an important contest, as Johnny Kilbane is to meet the winner for the world's featherweight title.

Sir Thomas Lipton will be entertained at a complimentary dinner at the New York Athletic Club on December 19.

AUTOMOBILES FOR RENT.

PACKARD LIMOUSINES, new cars, for monthly or weekly hire, at theatre or opera, with driver, for stopping one hour for supper, \$10; largest centers of Packard cars in New York. PHONE PLAZA 2100.

1913 6 CYLINDER PACKARD MOTOR CAR; DAY WEEK MONTH. BONSAL. PHONE 8000-SCHUYLER.

PACKARD LIMOUSINE for hire, by week or month, with driver, for stopping one hour for supper, \$10; largest centers of Packard cars in New York. PHONE PLAZA 2100.

SEVEN-PASSENGER LANDAUET.—Owner drives; price moderate; satisfaction guaranteed. WOOLLEY, Lenox 6975.

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PLAN FOR BIG POLO MATCH

Association Committee to Meet to Decide Programme.

H. I. Herbert, chairman of the Polo Association, announced yesterday that the meeting of the executive committee to pass upon the acceptance of the challenge received from the Hurlingham Club for the Westchester international cup would be held to-day at noon at the Whitehall Club, Battery Place. Mr. Herbert and W. A. Hazard, the secretary of the Polo Association, have been able to make arrangements so that every member of the executive committee will be present to discuss the programme connected with the matches for the cup and the entertainment of the Duke of Westminster and the members of the British challenging team.

"It would be impossible to foreshadow the nature of the plans connected with the polo cup," said Mr. Herbert, "except to say that the series of the best of three out of five matches will surely be played either the last week of May or the first week of June, and probably on the field of the Meadow Brook Hunt Club, at Westbury, Long Island." Mr. Herbert remarked that he did not know whether the formality of accepting the challenge on Friday, the 13th, was to be unfortunate for the Americans or for the English.